

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

RS20860

The definitions provided in statute are not listed alphabetically and some definitions need revision so they are more consistent with current industry standards. The confidentiality of oil and gas well logs currently has no time limit. Changing the confidentiality limitation to one year allows other oil and gas operators to access recent well log data. These changes are consistent with the standards of other states, and will foster, encourage, and promote the development and production of oil and gas as described in Idaho Code § 47-315. Lastly, the enforcement provisions of the Commission are outdated and do not have sufficient authority to effectively conserve oil and gas, protect corrective rights, and prevent the pollution of fresh water supplies.

FISCAL NOTE

These changes should have a positive effect on the potential development of this industry in Idaho. By modernizing our statutes, the regulatory environment will be more familiar, and therefore more attractive, to oil and gas companies looking to operate in Idaho. These changes could also have a positive effect on the economy by ensuring the Commission has the enforcement authority needed to prevent the waste of oil and gas, ensure mineral owners receive their share of production, and to protect fresh waters from pollution.

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